

Ideas for Consideration by the Legislative Council for Study

Submitted by Susan Byorth Fox, Executive Director

June 2011

These are some areas that have been identified as of interest from last interim and in the organization of the Council this interim. The Council could make preliminary requests for information and directions to staff, or could consider these as a part of the Strategic Planning Session later this summer.

Areas continued from last interim that may be beneficial to meet the needs of the Legislature:

1. Succession planning followup
2. Legislative space. - See SJ 3 and report
3. IT direction, including audio and video services (TVMT), archiving and preservation
4. Administrative Manual and Policies for Branch personnel
5. Printing and "paperless" legislature
6. LAWS upgrade (request line-item vetoed in HB 5)

Ideas that Council members have raised:

1. Rules - debrief 2011 changes, update, training, and tools
2. Permanent house and senate staff member
3. Hiring of Legislative Environmental Analyst
4. Leadership appointments -- timing, assistance, notice (see also Other 2. below)
5. House Bill No. 13 - pay plan legislation and discussion of inclusion of other items
6. Web and phone messages - paper of electronic, legislator email options, # of computers and availability to legislators

Other:

1. Legislative Security Officer ability to carry concealed weapons - need position description, training, and certification requirements. Would ask that staff collect information working with the Helena Police Department and bring forward a proposal for Council approval.
2. Appointment statutes - timing, civil office (i.e. Board of Research and Commercialization Technology, Future Fisheries)
3. Legislative computer system, legislator emails (from Finance Committee)
4. Committee votes and business processes - follow-up from last session
5. Franking (postage) and other costs during session (printing, posters, etc.)

Legislative Council Meeting
June 24, 2011